

AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL

APRIL 18, 1921

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The Air Service Vindication

A **FLYING AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL** in this issue has at last set at rest many of the misstatements that have been current about the gross extravagance of our air service activities during the War. If at the time of the London General Inquiry could have made the statement that half of the money and a quarter of the personnel appropriated for the Air Service during the war had been returned to the treasury, there would have been investigations of all sorts and all the loose talk would have been avoided.

But the impression has been created in the public mind regarding the production of aircraft and it will take a long time for the truth to overtake the many misstatements. It is not to be denied that the inevitable mistakes of judgment occurred, that occasionally delays hampered the progress and other things happened which could have been avoided. Perhaps some of these may be more satisfactorily explained when all the facts are finally available.

The fact is now established that our Air Service did not cost a billion and a half dollars, for its net cost was \$500,000,000. The figure 15 per cent of the total expenditure is based on the proportion of the money spent for American built airplanes.

The purpose of **AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL** in re-emphasizing this subject at this late date is to cause and for all time meet the impression which is constantly seen in circulating our future expenditures for air preparation, that "a billion and a half dollars was wasted" during the war.

Efficiency of Air Transport

THE paper read by H. White Smith, chairman of the Society of British Aircraft Constructors, before the Ellis-Roy Commission in London, and which is reproduced in this issue, is a work of the period of all those concerned with the organization of commercial air lines. For, while the paper does not raise any points which are not already known to the student of air transport problems, it has the merit of summarizing in a brief and concise manner the central points of the whole question of commercial aviation. On this ground Mr. Smith's paper should prove of considerable interest to that section of the business world which is seriously beginning to consider the status of air transport to supersede over existing means of travel and shipping.

Operators of commercial aviation enterprises whose scope is still local, but whose present success encourages them to look toward an expansion of their activities in the shape of regular inter-city aviation, may also find much food for thought in this paper. The high cost of operating converted military aircraft on commercial service is a well-known fact and it is interesting to see Mr. Smith state on the ground of experience gained by the English cross-Channel air line, that by the use of specially designed commercial aircraft the cost of the service has been reduced to less than half. Since the post-war conditions which produced this reduction in operating

costs are orthodox "ditch-and-repair-war" airplanes, it may be expected that with the introduction of streamliners, low-costers, modern machines, which would be suitably waterproofed, a still greater efficiency—and a corresponding economy in operations—will be achieved.

The concluding words of the paper apply with particular finality to this country, although they were meant to apply to British conditions. Mr. Smith points out that, even Great Britain cannot afford to maintain more than a comparatively small standing air force, the only way to insure a reserve of air power is by creating a commercial air fleet. He concludes by saying that "it is false economy to neglect the development of a form of national defense which can be run on business lines, and this might say aviation in some day is unduly spending vast sums of money on the extension of our military and naval air forces."

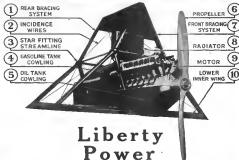
The truth of this assertion needs no stressing, particularly when applied to American conditions, considering the price the United States paid for the same unpreparedness upon declaring war on Germany.

Japan's Aerial Efforts

INFORMATION on the efforts Japan is making with a view to building up a thoroughly up-to-date air force with all the manufacturing facilities such a service requires is coming in with growing frequency. While the information of kind is not, as a rule, very comprehensive, a sufficient number of news items is available to create the impression that Japan shows no effort to build up an air force that may, in case of war compare with the air forces of the other great powers.

A large number of foreign flying suitcases and aeronautical engineers has been engaged to build up the personnel and material side of the Japanese air forces and, judging from some recent performances, such progress has already been made. Several dispatching firms have acquired foreign licenses for the manufacture of naval aircraft and aeronautical engines, and some European firms have established branch organizations in Japan. According to *THE WORLD'S AIRCRAFT*, 1920, there were in Japan at the end of last year twelve private aircraft manufacturing firms, including one building kite balloons and kiteships, to which number must be added the army and navy aircraft factories.

At the same time Japanese military and naval machines have for some time been in Europe respecting the latest products of the leading aircraft manufacturers and orders have been let, the unknown numbers of machines, to various British, French and Italian firms. The recent order for five Fokker D-12s passenger carriers—which are easily to be converted into long range bombers, the more so as they were originally designed as such—is a point in case. All of this shows that Japan is registering no opportunity to keep abreast of the times and to prepare for possible contingencies.



Liberty Power

[I]n war-time it is imperative that all fighting planes on which the Nation depends for defense, should be American built throughout.

In time of peace it is no less important that every detail in the construction of commercial planes should be of domestic manufacture—if the owner is to be spared the penalty of long delays in repair and replacement service.

The two Liberty 12-cylinder motors which power Glenn L. Martin airplanes are straight American from spark plug to bed-bolt. No aeronautical engine of the same horse power has ever approached the record of the All-American 400 horse power Liberty motor for efficiency and reliability.

The power plant of a Martin plane represents the latest and best work in American engineering, and is typical of the quality which goes to make up every individual part of a Glenn L. Martin plane.



FRONT VIEW SHOWING RELATION TO UNDERCARRIAGE



TRADE MARK



REAR VIEW OF THE OIL AND COOLING SYSTEM

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The National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics has just issued its Technical Note No. 47, which contains the first detailed account of recent European developments in helicopters. The note deals with two different types of helicopters. The first one described, which was developed through the efforts of Louis, Baron von Pétrowsky, of the Austrian army, and Professor Karmán, the well known aerodynamic expert, has the merit of actually having flown with three men on board. Fifteen ascents were altogether made by this helicopter and the greatest height attained was 160 ft. The initial date back to 1926 the first flight taking place on April 2 of that year.



KARMAN-PÉTROVSKY HELICOPTER DURING ONE OF ITS TRIALS while the last ascent occurred on June 16, 1931, when the machine was worked without human steering aid facilities. The section of the Note dealing with this helicopter and with its applications is credited to Professor Karmán, the information having apparently been taken from a report made by the author.

The second part of the Note describes the Lecoq-Duchêne helicopter construction on which started two years ago near Paris, France, with the financial assistance of the French air department. This machine differs from the Karmán-Pétrowsky helicopter mainly in that the lifting apparatus consists of two propellers rotating on separate shafts, whereas on the former machine the propellers were concentrically arranged.

Following is an excerpt from the Technical Note issued by the N. A. C. A.:

Tests of the Karmán-Pétrowsky Helicopter. Preparatory work. The tests in question were accomplished upon the completion of the construction of a prototype of a helicopter, offered by First Lord, Baron von Pétrowsky, then Commander of Defense Pilot Instruction, to the Austrian-Hungarian War Office. Lieutenant von Pétrowsky also re-

quested to be accompanied with a certain sum for testing expenses.

The first tests were made at the Austrian Airplane Factory, Ltd., Wiener-Kennedli, with propellers of rather large diameter. The thicker works at Wiener-Kennedli also constructed a helicopter, the diameter of the disk being 20 ft. The use of a light 300 hp. electric-motor originally intended for the first airplane. As this motor was intended to weigh 500 lb. only, according to the statement of the firm, the possibility of using a motor of this weight and power provided by means of a cable was taken into consideration.

The Austrian Airplane Factory proceeded no further than general drafts. When Prof. Karmán was entrusted with the direction of all the tests of the capital helicopter, in the spring of 1927, the work was continued systematically along two lines. First of all, tests were made at the propeller-testing laboratory at Fischhamer, tested, model tests were carried out in order to throw light on stability conditions, because with very small models worked by rubber cords, then with a heavier 90 lb. model driven by a 5 hp. compressed air engine specially constructed for the purpose.

These tests led to the discovery of a special kind of cable, which ensures stability and which was used in all later models. On the basis of the above-mentioned preliminary tests, tests were proceeded with along two lines: One by means of electric power, and the other with gasoline engines of the rotary type. A short description of those two methods, with a report of the tests made in connection follows.

The Capital Helicopter Driven by Electric Power. The machine was completely equipped with electric-motor, electric cable and switch before being taken to the ground. The framework itself was composed of steel tubes, with an observer's cage in the center, from which there was a clear view and firing range in all directions. The lifting power was furnished by four propellers driven by a motor by means of one gear. Its weight empty, including motor and propeller, was about 1,600 lb. The electric-motor weighed 430 lb., according to the Daimler Co., the output should have been 500 hp. (actually 300 hp., for 500 lb. weight), and it had actually yielded 390 hp., though at that time the motor constructed to work on a system that after 15 min. running it had to be stopped. Even with this reduced power, the lifting tests proved successful, for the machine rose to a low altitude with three passengers.

The advisability of equipping the already completed machine with two rotary engines, requiring the installation of transmission gears, was considered, but the idea was not carried out for want of suitable engines.

The Capital Helicopter Driven by Gasoline Engines. The capital helicopter fitted with gasoline engines consisted of a 3-maned cabin of steel tubes, in which three concentrically laid Le Rhon engines, of 150 hp. each, were mounted. The engine drove two propeller shafts, revolving in opposite directions by means of a transmission gear, and these propeller shafts in turn drove propellers, which 20 ft. in diameter, at about 600 r.p.m. These machine tests were installed near the mines.

The entire system was supported by a large buffer, which was fastened rigidly to the ground by an anchoring device by the engine, under the aid of which two steel buffers were mutually disposed. The object of these buffers was to reduce the shock in abrupt landings. The observer's seat, made of canvas, was situated over the propellers and strongly secured to the stationary gear-work by the secure safety propeller shaft. A machine-gun turret was located on the upper rim of the observer's seat.

The parachute was fixed to the observer. It had an area of 2,000 sq. ft. and was intended, in case of sudden stoppage of the motor, to bear the weight of the entire installation, including the observer. The parachute was to operate either automatically or by means of a hand lever.

Automatically the parachute operates in such a way that when a regulator adjusted for the purpose, falls below a certain number of revolutions of the propeller, it releases a mechanism

which opens the parachute. This action from the center of the propeller to open instantly, and tests have proved that it begins to work after a drop of about 50 ft. The three men above the capital helicopter ascend, descend, in case of emergency, land, start up at all altitudes. The same mechanism keeps the motor in a standstill at the time of ejecting the parachute.

The parachute may also be opened by hand by the observer. The parachute provided with a push parachute for personal safety. A need for the use of the parachute occurs only when at least two engines have stopped, two engines being capable of maintaining the propeller at a sufficiently high rate of revolution.

The disk takes place as follows: When the observer has taken up his position, the engine are started, and the machine is lifted by means of the fact that one engine at work causes the others to revolve. The functioning of the motor can be controlled by the observer, and future types of the capital helicopter will have the necessary instruments located within reach of the observer. As soon as the engine has started the full number of revolutions, a signal will be given for the lowering of the work, and the machine will then, according to present experience, descend at a speed of about 1 ft. per sec. This descent speed mainly depends upon the pitch of the propeller and the direction of the wind, and it can therefore be considerably increased. The capital helicopter is brought down by increasing the wind.

By its data, the engine have always run at full intake, in which case the excess of lift must be compensated. In future, the engine will be throttled in order to diminish the work of the wind.

The total weight of the capital helicopter, with engine and fuel for one hour, but not including the observer and the machine gun, is about 2,500 lb. It is strongly constructed, but some slight bending of weight may yet appear. The weight of the entire machine, without fuel, was about 4,800 lb., that is, about 11 lb. per hp. This machine can be considerably improved by replacing the propellers.

The signal type of capital helicopter driven by gasoline engine power was manufactured by the firm of Dr. Lupaş, Ltd., Budapest. Born-Hörner under the special supervision of Professor Karmán's collaboration, Ernst, Gen. W. Karmán, and the aircraft engineer, Gen. von Karmán.

It may be mentioned that Lieutenant von Pétrowsky was most sceptical in pronouncing the work shown described.

Fifteen Free Flight Tests

Test flights with gasoline engines. The reports of the test-flight experiments may be summed up as follows:

From April 3 to 4, lift and stability tests at low heights, between 50 ft. to 60 ft.

From May 1 to June 18, climbing to from 30 ft. to 160 ft. altitudes. Results: Lift scores on the ground to a load of 4 men. Perfectly successful soaring at an altitude of 150 ft. Vertical rising tests up to 160 ft.

A full set of tests and the general outline of this machine are shown in the accompanying illustrations.

After about fifteen successful flight tests, the machine had been tested in all respects, and the power of the engine, the Le Rhon engine, which had been recently repaired, decreased considerably that there was an insufficient amount of thrust, and the machine therefore landed violently, especially while being used on the ground, the propeller-blades striking into the earth.

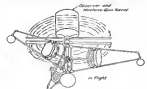
Considering the state of the motor, Professor Karmán and Lieutenant von Pétrowsky had wished to start the tests (thrust tests) at a low velocity of 20 ft. p. sec., but they were urged to carry them on by the testing committee, as a result of which the machine was wrecked.

The results thus confirmed those already arrived at with model tests, so far as stability is concerned. Observations made in the wind proved that, in addition to the fundamental thrust for simple cases of thrust, the position of the propeller in the wind is of great importance. The results obtained in that respect, both as theory and by means of practical tests, should be of the utmost value as applied to the construction of a second type.

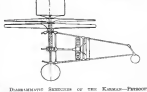
Applications of the Capital Helicopter

(a) Capital Helicopter with Crew, for Observation Purpose.—During War on Land. The advantages of the capital helicopter as compared to capital balloons are as follows: They are not electrically visible and therefore provide limited target area for artillery, they are mounted with guns and are especially adapted for shooting upward during steeply, they are non-inflammable, they can be started without any loss of time and can be rapidly transferred from one place to another.

The comparison may be summed up stating that a balloon serves as its disadvantages. (Below) front, with one balloon



SCHEMATIC DRAWING OF THE KARMÁN-PÉTROVSKY HELICOPTER WITH THREE GASOLINE ENGINES.



DYNAMIC SKETCHES OF THE KARMÁN-PÉTROVSKY HELICOPTER.

requires 1 automobile work-rooms, 2 automobile gas-pumps, 3 freight wagons, 6 officers and 137 men; whereas a capital helicopter requires 1 automobile car with three trailers, 1 motor truck, 6 officers and 89 men.

(b) Capital Helicopter for Observation from Battle-Ship. Adopted in a suitable manner, the capital helicopter might prove to be the best possible means of taking long-distance observations from battle-ships.

(c) Capital Helicopter for the Purposes of Open Fronts and Guns from Airplane Base. A small capital helicopter would not only be able to give warning of the approach of enemy aircraft, from a long distance, but might also be able to open effective defensive firing, if properly aimed.

(d) Capital Helicopter with Crew for Radio Purpose. Their systems carried out with kite-balloons or balloons have always been unsuccessful either on account of a breakdown of the kite-apparatus at a low wind velocity, or because of disturbing motion of the balloon masts during squalls. This difficulty would be avoided by the use of capital helicopter and are therefore of particular utility for radio

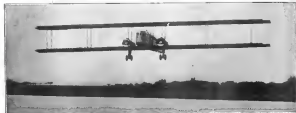
and sea, I have set out a short table which shows what it will cost to transport a ton of cargo on two passenger, one short, London to Paris, (240 miles), the other longer, London to Marseilles (700 miles). I have also the cost per passenger and the time required by the various modes of transport.

London to Paris, 240 Miles

MODES OF TRANSPORT	MILES		PASSENGERS	
	TIME	PER TON	TIME	COST
Train and Boat	4 hrs	10	1 hr	1.10
Auto (night)	10 hrs	10	1 hr	1.10
Auto (day)	10 hrs	10	1 hr	1.10
Air transport	1 hr	10	1 hr	1.10

London to Marseilles, 700 Miles

MODES OF TRANSPORT	MILES		PASSENGERS	
	TIME	PER TON	TIME	COST
Train and Boat	4 hrs	10	1 hr	1.10
Auto (night)	10 hrs	10	1 hr	1.10
Auto (day)	10 hrs	10	1 hr	1.10
Air transport	1 hr	10	1 hr	1.10



FARMAN "GOLIATH" CARRY AIRPLANE USED ON THE PARIS TO LONDON SERVICE BY A FRENCH AIR LINE

At a first glance it will be said that the cost of our transport is high, but you must consider cost in relation to the time required. That is, in the case of passengers, time is money, and the business man has so much time needed to devote to other business activities, incidentally he reduces his expenses for hotels, meals, etc., by means of the shorter time used for a journey.

It is important to bear in mind that whereas the older forms of transport have reached a point at which very little reduction in cost of operation is possible, we are only at the beginning with aircraft, and it should be possible to effect a gradual reduction. Take an item alone, the oil of kerosene, the cost of raising aircraft, this is the bill for petrol. This represents approximately one-third of the total running cost. Very great reduction can be made in the price of petrol, as every point that can be moved by improvement of engine or aircraft design, will help toward reducing this very expensive item.

I have addressed my remarks to the business man with the object of trying to show him that the air is an efficient mode of transport—not at present the most efficient, and that it is in his advantage to use. I do not suggest that aerial transport will displace other forms of transport. Generally speaking, the newer forms of transportation have not displaced the old, but have become additional and complementary to them, and I think this is so with the development of aerial transport.

* These few figures may be compared, for American conditions, with those from Washington to New York (210 miles) and New York to Chicago (700 miles)—*editor.*

Efficiency of Raising Capital

The difficulty today is that of finding capital, to find money, or people who will take a long enough view of the matter, and also men, and are prepared to finance the operation of the services. The Government has very little in the way of money to subsidize up to a total of £50,000 for this year, while the world aviation industry of France is only about £100,000. It is essential that capital be found to purchase the up-to-date commercial airplanes, which are necessary, and the design of which are now ready for production, to run the services efficiently and economically and on a profit-making basis. In this connection, on behalf of the Society of British Aircraft Constructors, of which I have the honor to be Chairman, I have submitted a proposal to the Air Ministry that the Government should make loans of £100,000 to the private industry, and that these loans should be repaid out of the profits of the services. The Government should be able to do this, and that these loans should be repaid out of the profits of the services. The Government should be able to do this, and that these loans should be repaid out of the profits of the services.

The Government should be able to do this, and that these loans should be repaid out of the profits of the services.

April 18, 1933

AVIATION

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commercial aviation which deserves the consideration of the British public and the Government. In terms of money, it is shown that we, as a nation, cannot afford more than a comparatively small standing air force. It follows, therefore, that the only way in which we may have a reserve of air power is by the creation of commercial air fleets.

A most important feature of maintaining a strong national air fleet is the demands that will be made on our construction for the design and supply of aircraft which can be continuously turned out by industry, and continuously a steady development of the power of aircraft production, associated with the building up of a great industry employing large numbers of workers, will be maintained in this country. We are all for economy, but it is false economy to neglect the development of a force of national defense which can be run on business lines, and that neglect may involve at some day in suddenly spending vast sums of money on the extension of our military and naval air force.

Organization of U. S. Army Air Service

Chief of Air Service

Major Gen. Charles T. Menoher

Assistant Chief of Air Service

Brig. Gen. William Mitchell

Executive

Major W. H. Frank

Administrative Executive

Major J. W. Brown, Jr.

U. S. Service Force Chief

Major J. E. Feltz (Portland, Ore.)

Chief of U. S. Forces (Washington, D. C.)

Director of Aircraft Production

Capt. W. F. Velski

Logistics Division

Capt. W. F. Velski

Chief of Base (Air Service)

Capt. W. F. Velski

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Capt. W. F. Velski

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Chief of Base (Air Service)

Capt. W. F. Velski

Geographical Distribution of Fleets

At hearings before Congressional Committees, there was shown a map which illustrated the location of the qualified aviators in the Air Service Officers' Reserve Corps. The map gives an excellent idea of the places where they could expect

to receive support in this country. The significant fact shown also demonstrated is that there are short every day in the United States of the 1932 aviators listed, 4897 are in aviation and 125 in aeronautics.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF QUALIFIED MEMBERS OF THE AIR SERVICE OFFICERS' RESERVE CORPS, JAN. 1, 1933

STATE	(FLOORS AND GRADES)		TOTAL
	AVIATION	AERONAUTICS	
New Hampshire	21	2	23
Vermont	18	1	19
Massachusetts	205	6	211
Rhode Island	14	1	15
Connecticut	50	2	52
New York	490	5	495
New Jersey	109	10	119
Delaware	121	4	125
Pennsylvania	583	14	597
Maryland	83	2	85
District of Col.	1	1	2
Virginia	13	2	15
North Carolina	532	14	546
South Carolina	14	1	15
Georgia	10	1	11
Florida	22	1	23
Alabama	61	1	62
Mississippi	27	1	28
Tennessee	74	1	75
Louisiana	30	1	31
Arkansas	33	1	34
West Virginia	362	5	367
Ohio	104	6	110
Indiana	135	2	137
Kentucky	43	2	45
Illinois	457	10	467
Michigan	378	10	388
Wisconsin	207	1	208
Minnesota	205	2	207
Iowa	685	14	699
Nebraska	131	4	135
Missouri	137	5	142
South Dakota	205	9	214
North Dakota	138	1	139
Montana	185	20	205
Idaho	25	1	26
Wyoming	13	1	14
Utah	13	1	14
Arizona	13	1	14
Colorado	13	1	14
California	308	13	321
Oregon	41	1	42
Washington	13	1	14
Alaska	13	1	14
Hawaii	13	1	14
Total	4027	125	4152

Dopes and Protective Coverings*

The following data are issued in order to give those concerned the correct ideas on the various dopes and instructions for applying them to fabrics:

Description

Dope is a somewhat viscous solution of cellulose nitrate or cellulose acetate. In both cellulose acetate and cellulose nitrate dopes the constituents may be grouped into four classes:

(a) **The Film Making Constituents**—The base or film making constituents for dopes are cellulose nitrate or cellulose acetate. Cellulose nitrate is made by the action of nitric acid on cotton. Cellulose acetate is made by the action of acetic acid and acetic anhydride on cotton. The manufacture of cellulose acetate is more complicated than that of cellulose nitrate. Cellulose acetate is more expensive.

(b) **Solvents**—The solvents are the liquids which are used to dissolve the cellulose nitrate and cellulose acetate. The solvents of cellulose acetate are amyl, butyl, and ethyl acetates. The solvents of cellulose nitrate are acetone, methyl acetate, methylcellosolve (depending on the solvent power on its content of acetone), and ethyl formate.

(c) **The Enhancer or "Plasticizer"**—The liquids used to dissolve are similar to solvents but do not have quite as much solvent power. They are used primarily to keep down the viscosity of the dope solution. They evaporate completely when the volatile acetone, acetone chloride for both acetate and nitrate dopes are heated, ethyl alcohol, and methyl alcohol. Residue in solvent has some effect on the film, making it brittle.

(d) **Plasticizers**, called commonly "dioctylsebacate" and "dioctyl sebacate" are used in acetate and cellulose acetate of comparatively high boiling points—alcohols and acetone which evaporate very slowly from the film and render it pliable and to some extent elastic. The plasticizers also help to prevent wrinkling or "blacking" by reducing the cellulose acetate or nitrate which has been precipitated out by moisture. Examples of plasticizers for cellulose acetate are benzyl alcohol, diethylene glycol, benzyl benzoate, benzyl acetate, and triacetin. For cellulose acetate the use of triacetin as a plasticizer is sufficient. Triphenyl phosphite is commonly used in dopes as a solvent. Once in solvents added as an additive to automatically neutralize small amounts of acid materials found in dope or developed when the dope film is acted on by light.

Function of Dope

The dope has two essential functions:

(a) **Flattening**—Dope is applied in such a thickness on the dope-covered material as to make the material flat. The thickness should also remain fairly constant under various weather conditions.

(b) **Protection**—The dope film must act as a protective covering for the fabric in order to prevent the liquid deterioration due to weathering. A clear film of either cellulose nitrate or cellulose acetate is transparent to sunlight, which is the greatest factor in the deterioration of dopes and fabrics. To prevent this excessive deterioration, as opaque protective coating on top of the clear dope film is of the utmost importance. The opaque film also aids in decreasing the permeability of the dope film to water, as both the acetate and nitrate clear dope films are permeable to water, the acetate to a greater extent.

The dope film also has a few secondary effects in that it increases the tensile strength of the fabric but decreases the tear resistance slightly, the latter depending to a certain extent on the amount of penetration of the dope into the fabric. Dope films also have a secondary action on the surface and reduce skin friction.

Pigmented Protective Coverings

The opaque coatings which are used are pigmented nitrate

or oil varnishes and designated varnishes, or pigments mixed with nitrate dope and designated pigmented dopes.

The various pigmented or varnishes (varnishes) are much heavier than the above-mentioned pigmented protective coverings of the dope type. Further, it is more difficult to get a pigmented oil varnish which dries with a flat surface, which cures a highly desirable for ordinary use, except in the absence of flash from the reflection of the sun on the wings while the airplane is in the air. For these two reasons, the use of pigmented protective coverings of the dope type rather than the oil varnish type is strongly recommended.

The color of the pigmented protective covering to be used on all airplanes is to be standard khaki. The khaki must be applied in the same thickness as that composing the protective covering. If other colors than khaki are desired for the purpose of camouflage or for the purpose of making preliminary training airplanes more visible to help avoid collisions, or if a special color is desired for any other special purpose, these colors can be furnished in an approved pigmented protective covering.

The Air Service pigmented nitrate dopes in the khaki color is known as No. 106 and should be ordered as such. It can also be obtained in the standard red, white and blue to-green colors.

Application of Pigmented Protective Coating

It has been demonstrated repeatedly that the life of the fabric depends on the drying power of the dope, and on protective covering. If dope is not applied or a good dope badly applied will appreciably shorten the life of an airplane covering.

Drying Conditions

Drying conditions in the field, whether in the nose of motor compartments or in a flying field, are generally far from ideal. The principal condition which causes drying trouble is relative humidity, sometimes "blacking" or "bleeding" which, if bad, means that proper adhesion of the dope to the fabric will not follow, and the weathering properties of the covering are materially decreased. Doping should be done as soon as possible on the days when the humidity is low or below 75 per cent.

If an engine building is available for doping, the relative humidity may be lowered by increasing the temperature. This, however, lowers the viscosity of the dope and increases the drying power to some extent. If the temperature is increased greatly beyond normal drying temperature (75 deg. Fakh) tests should be made to ascertain whether or not the proper weight of dope film is left on the fabric after drying. Tests should be made from 1 to 5 lbs. ounces per square yard. If the weight is low, another coat of dope should be added. If a dope contains a fair amount of high boilers, or plasticizers, it will wash less readily than one containing none of these constituents.

Application

The first coat of dope should be a very light coat and should be brushed on, with light stirring, to obtain penetration. Subsequent coats should be brushed on in the usual manner for applying varnish and similar materials.

Time of Drying

Under field conditions, time of drying can not be set down in such order from 10 to 45 min. per coat, depending on the temperature. In any case, a coat of dope ought not to be applied until the coat below is hard dry. In factories where cover at temperatures of 110 to 115 deg. Fahr. are in use this time of drying can be reduced.

Number of Coats

The number of coats is not of so much importance as the thickness. The thickness should be sufficient to give a decided

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of ring when struck with the knuckle. The weight of the film deposited should not exceed 3.75 oz. per square yard. This amount of cellulose acetate film, with the proper pigmented covering, should give a surface of satisfactory thickness. Four coats of acetate dopes should give a satisfactory surface.

Application of Pigmented Protective Coating

At least one hour should be given the dope to dry before the pigmented protective coating is put down. If coverings are used, one coat applied by brush is sufficient, if Air Service Pigmented Dope No. 106 is used, five coats will probably be necessary, as the covering power by brush or spray gun of this material is low. The pigmented protective covering must not be brushed into the dope film. The pigmented oil varnish dries in about twelve hours, while only two or three hours are necessary for the drying of No. 106.

Both materials must be thoroughly stirred before they are painted into the dope film, and stirred by the workman. This thorough stirring is most important, for the pigments have a tendency to remain near the bottom of the container. If not stirred thoroughly, the covering power will be irregular and the wing wrinkled and spotted.

At repair depots and fields where compressed air is available the use of the spray gun for the application of pigmented dopes is recommended. A spray gun similar to the one made by the United States Aircraft Co., Inc., is recommended for use in the field. This gun operates on 90 lb. air pressure. The dope is kept in a container under about 15 lb. air pressure. This pressure varies, however, with the viscosity of the dope and the thickness of the coat.

Dope Coats, Brushes, Etc.

Dope coats of the approved "blacken foot" type should be used when they are used on any dope of this type and must not be left uncovered. Dope coats should not contain more than 30 to 35 min. supply of dope; otherwise penetration of solvents and consequent changes in viscosity and loss of material may be serious. Dope coats must not be set on the fabric on the surface of the wing.

Brushes should be about 4 in. in width and fairly stiff. Brushes must be clean when used to obtain the best results. The following cleaning solutions are recommended: Cellulose acetate, 1 part brush; 1 part methyl acetate; Cellulose acetate, 1 part brush; 2 parts acetone.

The brushes in which the brushes are cleaned should be kept covered when not in use in order to avoid evaporation of the solvent. The soaked brushes should be allowed time to stand in the solutions while not in use.

Foundation of Dope Rooms

Dope rooms should be as well ventilated as is practicable considering the necessity of keeping temperature and humidity conditions as nearly as possible constant. No substance whose vapors are toxic are now used in dopes, but throat irritation and some irritation of the eyes may be caused by the fumes. Hence no room should not be kept more than two hours continuously in the dope rooms. They should then be given a half hour in the open air. Men should not dope before breakfast or on an entirely empty stomach.

Marking

On no account should marking be allowed in the dope rooms. Not only are dope solvents inflammable, but their vapors form highly explosive mixtures with air.

Dops

The dope must be kept off the fabric to be doped. Dope drips, which by careful application and handling can be reduced to a minimum, should be scraped from the floor and collected. The collection should be made in a container of cellulose acetate or cellulose nitrate. When both cellulose acetate dope and cellulose nitrate dopes are being used in the same room this is not so important.

Covering Power of Clear and Pigmented Dopes

It has been found in practice that when four coats of clear dope are applied to fabric-covered surfaces that the covering power will require 1 gallon to 25 square feet of surface. The

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covering power of Air Service Pigmented Dope No. 106 is 1 gallon to 80 square feet for two coats.

Finishing

Never patch over the pigmented protective covering. This must always be removed before the patch is applied. If the pigmented protective coating is similar to Air Service Pigmented Dope No. 106, it may be removed without harming the dope film by the use of methyl acetate and acetone in a 1 part benzene to 2 parts acetone ratio. A pigmented oil varnish, may be removed by methyl alcohol or benzene, or a mixture. Do not use benzene as a remover for pigmented protective coverings.

After the pigmented protective covering is removed around the hole or tear, the dope film is smoothed with the above solution of benzene or methyl acetate (if the surplus is removed by acetone dope), or a dilute solution of acetone or methyl acetate (if an acetate dope has been used), or the following proportions: 1 part methyl ethyl ketone, 3 parts methyl acetate, 2.5 parts benzene.

The dope and pigmented protective covering removers are applied in the same way, i.e., the removing solvent is brushed into the surface with a short, stiff brush. Excess of the solvent is removed by vigorous rubbing with a piece of waste or cloth, which at the same time takes off the overcoat, and any dopes, as the case may be. This is repeated as often as is necessary.

After the pigmented protective covering and the dope have been removed, the hole or tear is cleaned (if it is a bad case) with proper brushwork. A small piece of waste is dabbed on the wing (if possible), with the edges dried, is dipped over the wound, the dope being applied both over and under the patch. Patches should be applied, whenever possible, with the same dope as the surface acetate or acetate, as that will make the surface be doped. This is important, as otherwise poor adhesion may result.

The patch and that first layer of dope are allowed to dry, and then or more coats applied on top in the usual manner, with the same dope. When the dope is thoroughly dry, the patch is covered by a coat of pigmented protective covering.

Oil Spots

Occasional oil or grease spots on the fabric before doping may be removed by the use of benzene. The spot is rubbed gently with a piece of clean waste, soaked in benzene and let dry very thoroughly before doping. If the oil spot is left on, treatment of the dope is liable to bubble or blister at this point. Oil spots on the dope are not removed by the use of acetone or benzene. Occasional spots may be removed as above.

Factory Marks on Airplanes and Airplane Parts

To determine what dopes and what pigmented protective coverings were used in finishing a dope part in the factory it is necessary to consult the factory markings. These will be found in general on the under side of the aluminum, more especially on the right-hand side of fuselage sections, on the right-hand side of the wing, and on the right-hand side of the fuselage at the right-hand side near the line where it joins the fuselage assembly.

In the factory marking scheme the number-letter groups (as shown in the following table) indicate the name of the factory or flying field mark, and the number-letter group indicates the name of the dope.

The second group of numbers and letters indicates: First, the formula of the dope (indicated by the key number placed first), then "D" (denoting that the number-letter group refers to a dope); finally, a figure indicating the number of coats of dope.

The third group of numbers and letters indicates: First, the pigmented protective covering used (indicated by the key number placed first), then "P" if a pigmented varnish (varnish) was used, or "D" if a pigmented nitrate dope was used (P. A. or D. A. in the key number); finally, a figure indicating the number of coats of the pigmented protective covering.

The fourth number-group is the date of the application of the pigmented covering expressed in the usual way (month-day-year).

For example: 3-28D-32P02-4-29-18 means: This piece was

* From Air Service Information Circular

based at XV factory; 5 each of No. 10 type were used; the machine was finished with 2 each of pigmented dope No. 12, on June 25, 1931.

Key data for the dope numbers and pigmented protective covering numbers are given in Engineering Division Information Circular No. 56, issued March 21, 1931. This circular was distributed from the office of the Chief of Air Service, Washington, D. C.

Aerial Activity in Japan

The following information is from a report of A. E. Bryan, Canadian legation at Tokyo.

The Aeronautical Association is circulating a more active interest in airplanes and their use for commercial purposes. The Government authorities are also paying far more attention to the flying class, formation, and a larger number of the students asked this year by the War Department will be used to carry out the year's proposed operations and expansion.

About a year ago a party of sixty French experts came out to Japan on the aviation of the Imperial authorities for the purpose of instructing Japanese air pilots. These Frenchmen were all experienced and did much to stimulate this branch of Japan's military operations. It is now said that a party of French naval air pilots will arrive shortly to give instruction to the Imperial Japanese Air Service. Nine British constructional experts from the Vickers-Armstrong works arrived in this country last week to superintend the erection of what will be the first air-to-air surface factory in Japan, to be built at Nagoya by the Mikano interests.

Air Mail Service Being Organized

The question of operating an air mail service by the Department of Communications has been considered and it has been finally decided to institute the same some time this year between Tokyo and Osaka. The operation of this service will probably be based on the report of A. O. Oshikawa, who was sent abroad to study similar developments in Europe and America. Other proposed routes will be one to Kyushu in the south and Amoy in the north.

The Imperial Aviation Society is arranging a competitive flight between Tokyo and Amoy in August, which carries a prize of yen 10,000 for the winner. A mail-carrying flight will also be held between the same points, when prize amounting to yen 10,000 will be given. This contest is also arranged as a transoceanic flight between Tokyo and Shanghai, to be held next October, and is offering yen 50,000 and yen 30,000 as the first and second prizes respectively. There is also under consideration the establishment of a mail service by the Communications Department with the help of the naval authorities between Tokyo and the British islands, a distance of 500 miles.

The remainder paper Coo states that a Mr. Ryokan Tada, based at Tokyo, has been established a company with capital of yen 20,000,000 for the purpose of operating a passenger service between Osaka and Tokyo. Other private companies of a similar nature have been talked of. The Japanese Air Service has been authorized to operate for the purpose of carrying flying, continuing the districts where flying is forbidden, prohibiting stunt flying, etc., etc. All pilots and airplanes must be licensed according to these new regulations.

Airplane Construction in Japan

Up to the present an airplane of any account have been built in Japan. Inside the Imperial Arsenal, one or two small planes have been making airplanes with imported parts, but these have lacked the proper equipment to make them pay. One large shipbuilding firm in Kobe and another large machine in Tokyo have been meeting airplanes as a hobby, but only on a limited scale.

Most of the machines in use at the present time are of European origin. The French instructors brought considerable numbers of which they have left here and their departure. One or two of the important British machine are represented in Tokyo who have sold machines to the Japanese authorities. Services airplanes arrived recently from Germany, under the terms of the Versailles Treaty, and these will be used for experimental purposes.

The authorities are, however, beginning to build airplanes in the Imperial Arsenal at Tokyo up to the extent it is said that the engines are being imported from abroad.

Seaplanes to Map Mississippi Delta

In connection with the War Department's photographic survey of the Delta of the Mississippi River, problems arise, because of the peculiar character of the territory to be photographed which could only be overcome by the use of seaplanes. Consequently, the Secretary of War requested the Navy Department to take steps of mapping photographs on each bank of the North and Southern Passes of the Mississippi to cover the sandy areas of each bank in the least of their extent up to two miles from the river. This work is necessary in connection with the engineering projects of the Army District Engineer, and is of tremendous importance in the river and harbor improvement schemes at the mouth of the Mississippi.

The mapping could be performed by the Army Air Service, principally due to the lack of landing fields in the vicinity. But while it has no aviation facilities in the Delta, the Army is to supply the gasoline and oil for the mapping planes and substitutes for the crew.

Work on this project will start immediately. Seaplanes from the U. S. Naval Air Station at Pensacola will conduct the mapping work, each after finishing the photographic flights requested by the Army, will obtain additional pictures for the Coast and Geodetic Survey, in order to complete the maps which that bureau has under way of the Gulf Coast. It is estimated that by mapping these seaplanes about 100,000 square miles of the Delta will be covered over the old method of triangulation and surface mapping and survey.

This work not only shows the cooperation existing between the Army and Naval Aviation, but also the close cooperation between the Army, Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Delta mapping being only one of many projects of the same kind which the Navy has undertaken for both departments.

Saved by Airplanes

Peasake for the first time airplanes were used on a mission of mercy during the violent earthquakes which occurred in Argentina and Chile, and caused the destruction of several towns and villages and great loss of life. Several airplanes, equipped with parachute assistance in exploring the vast devastated areas where all means of communication had been destroyed.

The strains cooperated with the Red Cross in transporting doctors, as well as food and medical supplies to places which could not otherwise have been reached for a long time. This example of cooperation between the military and the expenditure of money often save and great position. It is estimated that the airplanes, after having been a perfect weapon of destruction, can be the means of bringing Red Cross assistance with great speed to the needs of the disaster otherwise was impossible, and suggests the hope of permanent use in Red Cross cooperation in all Government disaster centers.

S. V. A. Sales Increase

The Aero Import Corp. of 1639 Broadway, report the following sales:

One two-place airplane to William A. Leland, an national tennis champion; three S. V. A. two-place machines to Orlin, Morris Co., Bedford City, Calif.; four two-place machines to Halsey Aircraft Corp., Los Angeles, Calif.; and the same number to J. C. Walker, who recently made a remarkable flight with a Leland-Standard machine from Los Angeles, N. H., to Miami City, has secured an order for one, also from American Locomotive Co., Chicago, who has also ordered one, also from American Locomotive Co., and are negotiating for two more.

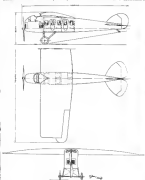
The Aero Import Co. has also arranged to ship an consignment to their western distributors plane for every Avia machine airplane flying west of the Mississippi River.

Albatros 8-Seater Cabin Monoplane

By Erik Hildeheim

The Albatros 8-seater cabin monoplane which is illustrated here is the first specially designed commercial airplane of the Albatros Co., of Berlin, the well known German firm which during the war produced many types of observation and pursuit machines for the German Air Force.

At first sight the Albatros 8-seater shows a considerable resemblance with the Fokker cabin monoplane which was described in the Dec. 6, 1930, issue of AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT.



OUTLINE DRAWING OF THE ALBATROS 8-SEATER CABIN MONOPLANE

General. The general layout—conventional monoplane with motor on struts, long fuselage, conventional landing gear—is a cabin, and with the pilot seated in front—see the side view of the two top, but the Albatros 8-seater monoplane a number of refinements and has a general more pleasing lines than the Fokker.

It is rather significant that the Albatros Co. should just in the Fokker Co., adopt for its post-war products the conventional monoplane, although both these built mainly biplanes during the war.

The Albatros 8-seater has, as usual, 3-ly tapered wings which sweep inward the tips in both chord and depth, and are fitted with balanced ailerons. The wings are of one piece, internally ribbed, and are braced directly onto the top longitudinal of the fuselage. The surface area is 520 sq. ft. The span is 41 ft. and the area chord 10 ft. 6 in.

The tail unit is also internally braced, the stabilizer and the vertical fin being built up of wood, while elevator and rudder bars frames of duralumin tubing.

The passenger cabin, seating six persons, is fitted just below the wings. Two doors on either side afford the passengers

easy access and egress. The pilot's cockpit, seating two, is in front of the cabin, on top of the engine. This arrangement has the advantage of enabling the pilot to have an unobstructed view downward and also to keep the wings more closely rounded. The overall length, from propeller hub to the tail fin, is 34 ft. 3 in. and the overall height is 11 ft. 6 in.

The landing gear is of the V type, with a wheelbase of 6 ft. 6 in. and 510 x 125 mm. tires. The axle is rubber spring.

The power plant may consist of either the 170 hp. Mercedes D 111s, the 180 hp. D 11 V 111s, or the 208 hp. Benz IV engines. In each case sufficient fuel is carried for a flight of three hours with full load. As the Benz engine is about



ALBATROS 8-SEATER CABIN MONOPLANE IN FLIGHT

200 H.P. heavier than either the Mercedes or the D 11 V 111 types cited, the greater loading of the machine is probably more than fitted with the three different engines are given by the manufacturer as follows—

	Mercedes	D 11 V	Benz
Weight empty	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.
Wings and engine	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.
Wings and engine	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.
Wings and engine	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.
Wings and engine	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.
Wings and engine	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.
Wings and engine	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.
Wings and engine	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.
Wings and engine	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.
Wings and engine	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.	1,010 lb.

In the figures given as useful load the weight of the pilot, the mechanic and the six passengers is assumed to be 70 kg each.

The take-off and landing runs of the machine are approximately 300 ft.

French Women Aviator Crosses the Andes

Miss Adrienne Bolland, a French aviator, on April 1, last, flew across the Andes Mountains from Mendoza, Argentina, to Chilo. Madame Bolland flew a Caudron biplane equipped with an 80 hp rotary engine. She is the first woman to have crossed the Andes by aircraft.

Aircraft and National Defense

Many ill-informed statements upon the relation of aircraft to National Defense are current. These react unfavorably upon the public and our legislators and tend to cloud vital questions of national policy.

A recent instance of this followed the storm created in army, navy and aviation circles by Brig.-Gen. William Mitchell's able testimony upon the effectiveness of bombing and torpedo planes against surface ships.

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STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, OF AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL published weekly at Highland, N. Y., for April 1, 1921.

State of New York ss.

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared George Newbold, who having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL and that the following is to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
Publisher, The Gardner, Moffat Co., Inc., Highland, N. Y.; Editor, Ladislav D'Orey, 225 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y.; Managing Editor, None; Business Manager, George Newbold, 225 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or, if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.)

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3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are:

Lester D. Gardner, 225 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

GEO. NEWBOLD,

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of April, 1921.

(Seal.)

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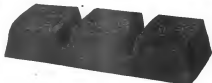
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